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Commission on Population and Development

Report on the thirty-eighth session (4-8 and 14 April 2005)

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Summary

The thirty-eighth session of the Commission on Population and Development was held at United Nations Headquarters from 4 to 8 and on 14 April 2005. The theme for the session was "Population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty".

The documents before the Commission included a report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, focusing on the theme of the session. The report provided an overview of population, HIV/AIDS and poverty, followed by sections on the determinants of HIV/AIDS; mortality, population growth and orphanhood; fertility and sexual behaviour; geographical mobility and HIV; HIV/AIDS, development and poverty; government views and policies; and prevention, care and treatment. The report documented the rapid expansion of the HIV/AIDS pandemic since 1980 as it afflicted all regions of the world. HIV/AIDS affects both the rich and the poor, but the hardest-hit countries have been among the poorest in the world. The report concluded that unless more vigorous action was taken to combat the disease and its effects, the HIV/AIDS epidemic would compromise the future development of many countries, especially the poorest. The most effective approach to thwarting the epidemic would be to implement a combination of strategies that could reduce risks, diminish vulnerability and mitigate the impact of the disease.

Other documents before the Commission included the report of the Bureau of the Commission on its intersessional meeting, held in Lima in October 2004; reports of the Secretary-General on the following items: the monitoring of population programmes, focusing on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty; the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; the contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration; the working methods of the Commission; world demographic trends; and programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2004 by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs; and a note by the Secretary-General on the draft programme of work of the Population Division for the period 2006-2007.

The Commission heard keynote addresses by Ms. Debrework Zewdie, Director of the Global HIV/AIDS Programme at the World Bank, and Dr. Paulo Roberto Teixeira, Senior Consultant to the São Paulo State STD/AIDS Programme of Brazil.

In its consideration of follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development (agenda item 3), the Commission adopted one decision and one resolution. In its decision, the Commission decided that the theme for its fortieth session in 2007 should be "The changing age structures of populations and their implications for development". In its resolution adopted under this agenda item, the Commission reaffirmed the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development as well as the goals, targets and actions set forth in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and underscored the importance of actions undertaken by Governments and the international community to respond to the HIV/AIDS

epidemic, reaffirming the need for Governments to intensify national efforts and international cooperation in the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS. In the same resolution, the Commission, stressing that HIV/AIDS was contributing to the intensification of poverty in many countries, urged the international community to complement and supplement, through increased international development assistance, the efforts of developing countries that were committing increased national funds to fighting AIDS, and, in that regard, stressed the need for an integrated approach in national responses to the epidemic that would include an action framework to facilitate the coordination of work by all partners, one national HIV/AIDS framework, one national HIV coordinating body and one agreed country-level monitoring and evaluation system.

In considering the contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (agenda item 4), the Commission adopted a resolution in which it stressed that the full implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation made an essential contribution to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration; emphasized the importance of integrating the goal of universal access to reproductive health into strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration; also emphasized the need to strengthen policy and programme linkages and coordination between HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health and their inclusion in national development plans; further emphasized the importance of paying closer attention to the interrelations between population structure and trends, including population ageing, and poverty and development; and urged Member States and the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development. In the same resolution, the Commission stressed the promotion of women's reproductive health; welcomed the increase in both domestic expenditures and international donor assistance for the achievement of the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development; recognized that the effective implementation of the Programme of Action required an increased commitment of financial resources; encouraged Governments, international organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders to assist the developing countries and countries with economies in transition in implementing the Programme of Action; and, lastly, called for the allocation of adequate resources to all areas of the Programme of Action, including the costed package.

In its review of its methods of work (agenda item 6), the Commission adopted a decision in which it decided that the regular geographical rotation of its Chair, a system that had been established at its thirty-seventh session, should start with the election held at its thirty-ninth session; reaffirmed its central role in coordinating the review and assessment of the overall implementation of the Programme of Action and the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly; and reiterated the need to conduct periodically comprehensive reviews and appraisals of the implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation. In the same decision, the Commission reaffirmed the importance and utility of an ongoing exchange of views and information between the

Commission and the Economic and Social Council; recalled the role of the Bureau of the Commission in planning the Commission's annual session and making proposals for its programme of work; welcomed the format of inviting keynote speakers to address the sessions of the Commission; decided to establish at its thirty-ninth session in 2006 a multi-year programme of work; and also decided to further consider its methods of work thereat. The Commission also decided to promote increased sharing of national, regional and international experiences through focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners, and stressed the importance of making available written reports of the intersessional meetings of the Bureau at the earliest possible opportunity after those meetings.

The Commission took note of the documents submitted at its thirty-eighth session, approved the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-ninth session, to be held in New York in 2006, and adopted the report on its thirty-eighth session.

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decision

1. The Commission on Population and Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-eighth session and provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-eighth session;

(b) Approves the provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission as set out below:

Provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the session

Report of the Bureau of the Commission on its intersessional meeting

2. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, focusing on international migration and development

Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes focusing on international migration and development

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

3. General debate on national experience in population matters: international migration and development.

4. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population, 2005

5. Methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development.

6. Provisional agenda for the fortieth session of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the fortieth session of the Commission

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-ninth session.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

2. The following resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Council:

Resolution 2005/1
Population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty*

The Commission on Population and Development,

Recognizing that the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[1] and the key actions for its further implementation[2] are integrally linked to global efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development and that the achievement of the goals of the Programme of Action is consistent with and makes an essential contribution to the attainment of the development goals set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 58/236 of 23 December 2003 entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS", resolution 49/2 on women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS of the Commission on the Status of Women, and Assembly resolution 58/179 of 22 December 2003 entitled "Access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria",

Welcoming the decision to convene, on 2 June 2005, a high-level meeting of the General Assembly to review the progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[4]

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* For the discussion, see chap. II.

[1] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-21/2, annex.

[3] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[4] General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

Noting that poverty and inequality increase people's vulnerabilities to HIV, posing increased risks of infection to populations in every region, while at the same time undermining the socio-economic conditions of people living with HIV,

Deeply concerned that the global HIV/AIDS pandemic disproportionately impacts women and girls, and that the majority of new HIV infections occur among young people,

Emphasizing that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are fundamental elements in the reduction of their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, and emphasizing also that the advancement of women and girls is key to reversing the pandemic,

Noting with profound concern that 39.4 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS, and that the HIV/AIDS pandemic claimed 3.1 million lives in 2004 and to date has orphaned 15 million children,

Noting with deep concern that the number of new cases of HIV infection remains unacceptably high, especially among individuals at high vulnerability and/or risk, as the infection spreads in the general population, particularly to women of reproductive age and adolescent girls, with the number of people living with HIV and AIDS increasing,

Recognizing that the internationally agreed development goals including those contained in the Millennium Declaration will not be achieved without, inter alia, an intensified, expanded and effective global response to HIV/AIDS, since it affects population dynamics, shortens life expectancy and slows economic growth through lost productivity and other factors that undermine development,

Reaffirming that the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all is an essential element in the global response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and reaffirming also the importance of the elimination of all forms of stigma imposed on and discrimination directed against people living with or at risk of HIV/AIDS, including the most vulnerable,

Recognizing that access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS is one of the fundamental elements to achieve progressively the full realization of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health,

Recognizing also that economic and social development, and an enabling policy and legislative environment as well as sufficient resources, are essential for an effective and truly multisectoral response to the epidemic,

Acknowledging that prevention, care, support and treatment for those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS are mutually reinforcing elements of an effective response and must be integrated in a comprehensive approach to combating the epidemic,

Emphasizing that the majority of HIV infections are sexually transmitted and that the infection is also associated with exposure to infected blood and mother-to-child transmission, that HIV and sexual and reproductive ill health have mostly common root causes, and that HIV transmission is influenced by a number of social factors including inequality, poverty, gender inequality and marginalization of those individuals at high vulnerability and/or risk,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, focusing on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty,[5]

Bearing in mind the reports of the International Conference on Population and Development[6] and on the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action,[7] in their entirety,

1. *Reaffirms* the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[1] and the key actions for its further implementation;[2]

2. *Also reaffirms* the goals, targets and actions set forth in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[4] which complement and reinforce those in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its five-year review and the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[3]

3. *Stresses with deep concern* that the HIV/AIDS emergency, with its devastating scale and impact, requires urgent actions in all fields and at all levels;

4. *Stresses* that HIV/AIDS contributes to the intensification of poverty in many countries, affecting individuals, families and communities as well as every sector of society, reduces human capital and has profound and long-lasting effects on the country's social and economic development, and that combating this trend requires urgent and sustained long-term action and coordinated response in all fields and at all levels;

5. *Reaffirms* the need for Governments, supported by relevant actors, all stakeholders including civil society and the private sector, to intensify national efforts and international cooperation in the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

6. *Recognizes* that the HIV pandemic is having a devastating impact on children, that the global number of orphans continues to increase, and that other children are vulnerable because they have an ill parent, live in poor households that have taken in orphans, live in child-headed households, or are discriminated against, and that more than 2 million children are living with HIV/AIDS themselves; and stresses the need to strengthen multisectoral responses in this regard, including psychosocial support to children and families infected and affected by HIV/AIDS;

7. *Stresses* the importance of building up national competence and capacity to provide impact assessment of the epidemic which should be used in planning for prevention, treatment and care, and for addressing HIV/AIDS;

8. *Urges* the international community to complement and supplement, through increased international development assistance, efforts of the developing countries that commit increased national funds to fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic, particularly those countries most affected by HIV/AIDS, particularly in Africa, especially sub-Saharan Africa, and the Caribbean, countries at high risk of

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[5] E/CN.9/2005/3.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

[7] See General Assembly resolution S-21/2 and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-21/5/Rev.1).

expansion of the HIV/AIDS epidemic and countries in other affected regions whose resources for dealing with the epidemic are seriously limited;

9. *Stresses* the need for an integrated approach in national responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic that includes an action framework to facilitate the coordination of work by all partners, one national HIV/AIDS framework, one national HIV coordinating body and one agreed country-level monitoring and evaluation system, all of which allow for the inclusiveness and flexibility needed to foster and promote effective locally developed solutions; and commends the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS for its leadership in engaging the support of Governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, and international cooperation and multilateral agencies for making the "Three Ones" a reality;

10. *Notes with deep concern* that the HIV pandemic is straining resources in the health sector and in this regard stresses the need to strengthen health systems, including through international cooperation, by addressing the severe shortage of skilled health personnel as a major obstacle to the expansion of programmes to fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic and to improve sexual and reproductive health;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen policy and programme linkages and coordination between HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health and their inclusion in national development plans, including poverty reduction strategies and sector-wide approaches where they exist, as a necessary strategy for fighting the HIV/AIDS pandemic and mitigating its impact on population that could result in more relevant and cost-effective interventions with greater impact;

12. *Urges* Governments to implement measures to increase capacities of adults and adolescents to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection, principally through the provision of health care and health services, including for sexual and reproductive health, and through prevention education that promotes gender equality within a culture- and gender-sensitive framework;

13. *Also urges* Governments to take all necessary measures to empower women and strengthen their economic independence, and to promote and protect the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to enable all individuals to protect themselves from HIV infection, sexually transmitted infections and reproductive ill health;

14. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that young women and men have access to information, education, including peer education and youth-specific HIV education, sexual education and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection and reproductive ill health, in full partnership with young persons, parents, families, educators and health-care providers;

15. *Also stresses* the importance of building local capacity by working with national programmes and local organizations to create an effective and sustainable response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic;

16. *Urges* Governments to expand access to care and treatment to those in need, particularly those living in poverty, including the prevention of mother-to-child transmission, in a progressive and sustainable manner, and treatment of opportunistic diseases as well as the effective use of antiretroviral medication, and

to promote access to safe, low-cost and effective drugs and related pharmaceutical products;

17. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen pharmaceutical policies and practices, including those applicable to generic drugs and intellectual property regimes, in order to further promote innovation and the development of domestic industry consistent with international law;

18. *Urges* relevant United Nations organizations as well as other relevant international organizations to further support national efforts for the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and to address the issue of the cost, availability and affordability of drugs and related technology;

19. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 30 August 2003 on the implementation of paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and public health;

20. *Urges* Governments to enact, strengthen or enforce, as appropriate, public policies, laws, regulations or other measures to combat all forms of discrimination directed against and stigma imposed on people living with HIV/AIDS and individuals at high vulnerability and risk;

21. *Encourages* the design and implementation of programmes to enable men, including young men, to adopt safe and responsible sexual and reproductive behaviour and to use effective methods to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS;

22. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening programmes and partnerships, including public-private partnerships, to mobilize the required technical and financial resources as part of a broad-based approach to the prevention of HIV, including through reproductive and sexual health care, as the mainstay of the national, regional and international response to the pandemic, and calls for the support of the international community in closing the funding gaps for sexual and reproductive health programmes;

23. *Encourages* increased investments in HIV/AIDS-related research nationally, regionally and internationally, in particular for the development of sustainable and affordable prevention technologies, such as vaccines and microbicides, and also encourages the proactive preparation of financial and logistic plans to facilitate rapid access to vaccines and microbicides when they become available;

24. *Urges* the international community to provide urgently the resources needed for an expanded and comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS, in particular as identified by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and its co-sponsors, and to also provide full funding for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and welcomes its decision to create a voluntary replenishment mechanism to assure more predictable funding;

25. *Encourages* the United Nations Population Fund, in close collaboration with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and other relevant funds, programmes and agencies, to continue to implement HIV prevention strategies, recognizing that sexual and reproductive health programmes are key entry points for HIV prevention, and taking into account the need for a comprehensive approach to prevention and treatment, commends the Fund for its Global Strategy for

Reproductive Health Commodity Security and urges all countries in a position to do so as well as other development partners to contribute to the trust fund;

26. *Commends* the commitment made by the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to working with the international community to support developing countries in achieving the "3 by 5" target, that is to say, the target of providing antiretroviral medicines to 3 million people infected with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2005, urges Governments to continue to work collaboratively with the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS beyond 2005 towards the goal of making HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services accessible to all who need them;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the work of the Secretariat as well as other relevant funds, programmes and agencies on the gender dynamics and demographic aspects of HIV/AIDS in a comprehensive manner, including on infant, child and maternal mortality and its impact on population and development, and to reflect this in his reports to the forthcoming sessions of the Commission on Population and Development.

Resolution 2005/2
Contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration*

The Commission on Population and Development,

Welcoming the decision of the General Assembly[8] to convene, at the commencement of its sixtieth session, a high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly to undertake a comprehensive review of the progress made in the fulfilment of all the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[9] including the internationally agreed development goals and the global partnership required for their achievement, and of the progress made in the integrated and coordinated implementation, at the national, regional and international levels, of the outcomes and commitments of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

Welcoming also the decision of the General Assembly[10] to devote a high-level dialogue to international migration and development during its sixty-first session,

Welcoming further the decision of the Economic and Social Council[11] to devote the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2005 to the topic "Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major

* For the discussion, see chap. III.
[8] See General Assembly resolution 58/291.
[9] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.
[10] See General Assembly resolutions 58/208 and 59/241.
[11] See Economic and Social Council decision 2004/294.

United Nations conferences and summits: progress made, challenges and opportunities",

Recalling General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[12] on the contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Taking into account both the progress made so far in the follow-up and implementation of the Programme of Action and the challenges and obstacles that lie ahead with respect to achieving the goals and objectives set therein as well as in the other outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits, including the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Emphasizing the importance of the contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and that three of the four quantifiable goals contained in the Programme of Action, namely, reducing maternal mortality, reducing infant and child mortality and ensuring universal access to primary education, are fully reflected in the Millennium Declaration,

Bearing in mind the reports of the International Conference on Population and Development[13] and on the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action,[14] in their entirety,

1. *Reaffirms* the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[15] and the key actions for its further implementation;[16]

2. *Stresses* that the full implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation is an essential contribution to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[9] and in this regard fully underscores the relevance of the Programme of Action and the key actions to the review of progress made in fulfilling the commitments of the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes and commitments of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

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[12] E/CN.9/2005/6.

[13] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

[14] See General Assembly resolution S-21/2 and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-21/5/Rev.1).

[15] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[16] General Assembly resolution S-21/2, annex.

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of integrating the goal of universal access to reproductive health by 2015 set at the International Conference on Population and Development into strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, in particular those related to improving maternal health, reducing infant and child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS, eradicating poverty and achieving universal access to primary education;

4. *Also emphasizes* the need to strengthen policy and programme linkages and coordination between HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health and their inclusion in national development plans, including poverty reduction strategies where they exist and sector-wide approaches where they exist, as a necessary strategy to fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic and to mitigate its impact on populations, which could result in more relevant and cost-effective interventions with greater impact;

5. *Further emphasizes* the importance of closer attention in policy dialogue and policy development to the interrelations between population structure and trends, including population ageing, and poverty and development;

6. *Urges* Member States and the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefit of migration for those concerned;

7. *Stresses* that promoting women's reproductive health, their full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, their empowerment, their equal access to resources and their freedom from gender-based violence is essential to achieving gender equality, addressing the feminization of poverty and halving poverty by 2015;

8. *Welcomes* the increase in both domestic expenditures and international donor assistance for the achievement of the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development;

9. *Recognizes* that the effective implementation of the Programme of Action requires an increased commitment of financial resources, both domestically and externally, and in this context calls upon developed countries to complement the national financial efforts of developing countries related to population and development and to intensify their efforts to transfer new and additional resources to the developing countries, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action, in order to ensure that population and development objectives and goals are met;

10. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations, including those of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders to assist the developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of the Programme of Action through technical assistance and capacity-building activities in order to accelerate that implementation;

11. *Calls for* the allocation of adequate resources to all areas of the Programme of Action, including the costed package.

Decision 2005/1
Special theme for the Commission on Population and Development in the year 2007*

The Commission on Population and Development decides that the special theme for the fortieth session of the Commission in 2007 shall be "The changing age structures of populations and their implications for development".

Decision 2005/2
Methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development**

The Commission on Population and Development, recalling General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, in which the Assembly requested that each functional commission of the Economic and Social Council examine its methods of work in order to better pursue the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, and to report to the Council no later than 2005 on the results of its examination, recalling also decision 2004/2 of the Commission on Population and Development on its methods of work, taking note of Council decision 2005/213 of 31 March 2005 on the improvement of the work of the Commission and reaffirming that the Assembly, through its role in policy formulation, the Council, through its role in overall guidance and coordination, in accordance with Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993, and the Commission constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that plays the primary role in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development:[17]

(a) Decides that the regular geographical rotation of the chair of the Commission on Population and Development, as established by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session, shall start with the election held at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission and that the order of rotation shall be as follows: (i) African States; (ii) Asian States; (iii) Eastern European States; (iv) Latin American and Caribbean States; and (v) Western European and other States;

(b) Reaffirms the central role of the Commission in coordinating the review and assessment of the overall implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[17] and the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly[18] at all levels;

(c) Reiterates the need to conduct periodically comprehensive reviews and appraisals of the implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation;

(d) Reaffirms the importance and utility of an ongoing exchange of views and information between the Commission and the Economic and Social Council,

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* For the discussion, see chap. II.

** For the discussion, see chap. V.

[17] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[18] General Assembly resolution S-21/2, annex.

including by means of meetings of the Bureau of the Commission with the Bureau of the Council;

(e) Recalls the role of the Bureau of the Commission in planning the Commission's annual session, and in making proposals for its programme of work;

(f) Welcomes the format of inviting keynote speakers to the sessions of the Commission, and requests the Bureau of the Commission to make the necessary arrangements for their participation and to inform member States accordingly;

(g) Decides to establish, at its thirty-ninth session, a multi-year programme of work for covering a series of general themes that will be based on the Programme of Action and its implementation, and to determine, at that session, the duration of and themes for the programme of work;

(h) Also decides that the Commission, at its thirty-ninth session, will further consider its methods of work, and that such consideration will include the nature of the outcomes of the Commission, the inclusion of new or emerging issues in its agenda, the organization of the multi-year programme of work and its possible organization into a series of two-year cycles, and the contribution of the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, as well as other possible measures to revitalize the work of the Commission, and requests the Bureau to seek the views of member States thereon;

(i) Further decides that, in the examination of its themes, the Commission should promote increased sharing of national, regional and international experiences, such as best practices and lessons learned, through focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners with the participation of keynote speakers and civil society representatives, including non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council;

(j) Stresses the importance of making written reports on the intersessional meetings of the Bureau available at the earliest possibly opportunity after a meeting or, in any case, within four weeks of the end of the meeting;

(k) Encourages the regional commissions to plan their activities with a view to contributing to the current work of the Commission, and in so doing, to collaborate, as appropriate, with other regional or subregional intergovernmental organizations as well as with offices, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system.

Decision 2005/3
Documents considered by the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-eighth session

The Commission on Population and Development takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes, focusing on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty (E/CN.9/2005/4);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/2005/5);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the working methods of the Commission on Population and Development (E/CN.9/2005/7);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends (E/CN.9/2005/8);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2004: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/2005/9).

Chapter II

Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development

1. The Commission held a general discussion on item 3 of its agenda, entitled "Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development", at its lst, 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 4 and 5 April 2005. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, focusing on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty (E/CN.9/2005/3);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes, focusing on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty (E/CN.9/2005/4);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/2005/5);

(d) Statement submitted by the International Women's Health Coalition, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.9/2005/NGO/1);

(e) Statement submitted by the World Population Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.9/2005/NGO/2);

(f) Joint statement submitted by the Association for Women in Development, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; and Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Catholics for a Free Choice, Center for Reproductive Rights, Center for Women's Global Leadership, Family Care International, IPAS, and World Population Foundation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status with the Council (E/CN.9/2005/NGO/3);

(g) Statement submitted by Population Action International, a non-governmental organization on the Roster (E/CN.9/2005/NGO/4);

(h) Statement submitted by Family Care International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.9/2005/NGO/5).

2. At the 1st meeting, on 4 April, introductory statements were made by the Director of the Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs; the Chief of the Population Studies Branch of the Population Division; the Chief of the HIV/AIDS Branch of the Technical Support Division, United Nations Population Fund; and the Chief of the Population and Development Branch of the Technical Support Division, United Nations Population Fund.

3. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and the acceding countries

Bulgaria and Romania, the candidates countries Croatia and Turkey, the countries of the association and stabilization process and potential candidates Albania, Serbia and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, which aligned themselves with the statement), Kenya and the Russian Federation.

4. At the 2nd meeting, on 4 April, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, China, India, Peru, the United States of America, Switzerland, El Salvador and Morocco and the observers for Egypt, South Africa and Ghana.

5. At the same meeting, the representative of Partners in Population and Development made a statement.

6. Also at the 2nd meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the World Health Organization.

7. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the International Women's Health Coalition, a non-governmental organization.

8. At the 3rd meeting, on 5 April, statements were made by the representatives of Guyana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Caribbean Community) and Bolivia.

9. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development, a non-governmental organization.

Action taken by the Commission

Population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty

10. At the 8th meeting, on 8 April, the Chairman of the working group and Vice-Chairman of the Commission reported on the outcome of negotiations on a draft resolution entitled "Population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty" (E/CN.9/2005/L.4), which was circulated in an informal paper.

11. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and France, the Commission decided to defer action on the draft resolution.

12. At its resumed 8th meeting, on 14 April, the Commission had before it draft resolution E/CN.9/2005/L.4, submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

13. At the same meeting, oral corrections to the text of the footnotes of the draft resolution were read out by the Secretary of the Commission.

14. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected (see chap. I, sect. B, resolution 2005/1).

15. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Nicaragua, Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are

members of the European Union), Norway and El Salvador and the observer for Costa Rica (see annex II).

Special theme for the Commission on Population and Development in 2007

16. At its resumed 8th meeting, on 14 April, the Commission had before it a draft decision entitled "Special theme for the Commission on Population and Development in the year 2007" (E/CN.9/2005/L.6), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

17. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 2005/1).

Documents considered by the Commission

18. At its resumed 8th meeting, on 14 April, upon the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission took note of the documentation submitted to the Commission under agenda item 3 (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 2005/3).

Chapter III

Contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration

1. The Commission held a general discussion on item 4 of its agenda, entitled "Contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration", at its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 4 and 5 April 2005. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (E/CN.9/2005/6).

2. At the 2nd meeting, on 4 April, introductory statements were made by the Director of the Population Division and the Chief of the Population and Development Section of the Population Division.

3. At the 3rd meeting, on 5 April, statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and the acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia and Turkey, the countries of the association and stabilization process and potential candidates Albania, Serbia and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, which aligned themselves with the statement), Canada and China.

Action taken by the Commission

Contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration

4. At its resumed 8th meeting, on 14 April, the Commission had before it a draft resolution entitled "Contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration" (E/CN.9/2005/L.5), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Commission made oral corrections to the text of the footnotes of the draft resolution.

6. Also at the resumed 8th meeting, a statement was read out by the Secretary of the Commission on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected (see chap. I, sect. B, resolution 2005/2).

8. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Norway and Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) (see annex II).

Chapter IV

General debate on national experience in population matters: population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty

1. The Commission held a general discussion on item 5 of its agenda, entitled "General debate on national experience in population matters: population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty", at its 4th, 5th and 6th meetings, on 5 and 6 April 2005.

2. At the 4th meeting, on 5 April, statements were made by the representatives of Kenya, Indonesia, El Salvador, the Russian Federation, Poland, Canada, France, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brazil and Mexico and the observers for Australia, Argentina (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Rio Group), Algeria, Portugal, South Africa and Ethiopia.

3. At the 5th meeting, on 6 April, statements were made by the representatives of Ireland, Nicaragua, Jamaica, the Gambia, the Netherlands and China and the observers for Ghana, Jordan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Cuba.

4. At the 6th meeting, on 6 April, statements were made by the representatives of Zambia, Belgium, the United States of America, Armenia, Norway and Bulgaria and the observers for Uganda, Sweden and Suriname.

5. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the International Organization for Migration.

6. Also at the 6th meeting, the representative of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) made a statement.

7. At the same meeting, in accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council made statements: Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, International Planned Parenthood Federation and Franciscans International (general consultative status); International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, Family Care International and World Population Foundation (special consultative status); and Committee for International Cooperation in National Research in Demography (Roster).

Keynote addresses

8. At its 3rd meeting, on 5 April, the Commission heard a keynote address by Debrework Zewdie, Director of the Global HIV/AIDS Programme at the World Bank, which was followed by a discussion in which the delegations of Mexico, the United States of America, Kenya, Ghana, Uruguay, Ireland, Australia, Croatia, Bolivia and the Gambia took part.

9. At its 5th meeting, on 6 April, the Commission heard a keynote address by Paulo Teixeira, Senior Consultant, São Paulo State STD/AIDS Programme (Brazil), which was followed by a discussion in which the delegations of the Gambia, Bolivia, Norway, Lebanon, China, Uruguay and Kenya took part.

Action taken by the Commission

10. No action was taken by the Commission under this agenda item.

Chapter V

Review of the methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development

1. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda, entitled "Review of the methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development", at its 6th meeting, on 6 April 2005. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the working methods of the Commission on Population and Development (E/CN.9/2005/7).

2. The Director of the Population Division introduced the report.

3. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, the acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate country Turkey, the countries of the association and stabilization process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, which aligned themselves with the statement).

Action taken by the Commission

Methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development

4. At its resumed 8th meeting, on 14 April, the Commission had before it a draft decision entitled "Methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development" (E/CN.9/2005/L.7), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Secretary made a statement.

6. Also at the resumed 8th meeting, following statements by the representative of Lebanon and the observers for Argentina and Qatar, the text of operative paragraph 10 of the draft decision was orally corrected as follows: the word "intersessional" was inserted before the word "meetings".

7. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft decision, as orally corrected (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 2005/2).

8. After the adoption of the draft decision, a statement in explanation of position was made by the representative of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) (see annex II).

Chapter VI

Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population

1. The Commission held a general discussion on item 7 of its agenda, entitled "Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population", at its 7th meeting, on 7 April 2005. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends (E/CN.9/2005/8);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2004: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/2005/9);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the draft programme of work of the Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, for the period 2006-2007 (E/CN.9/2005/CRP.1).

2. Introductory statements were made by the Chief of the Population Studies Branch, the Chief of the Population Policy Section, and the Senior Population Affairs Officer, all of the Population Division.

3. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Norway.

4. Also at the 7th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic Commission for Africa.

Action taken by the Commission

5. No action was taken by the Commission under this item.

Chapter VII

Provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission

1. At its resumed 8th meeting, on 14 April 2005, the Commission had before it the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission (E/CN.9/2005/L.2).

2. At the same meeting, the Secretary orally corrected the text of the document as follows:

(a) A new item 5 entitled "Methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development" was inserted, and the subsequent items of the provisional agenda were renumbered accordingly;

(b) Item 7, entitled "Election of officers for the fortieth session", was deleted.

3. Also at its resumed 8th meeting, the Commission decided to recommend the draft provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.9/2005/L.2, as orally revised, to the Economic and Social Council for adoption (see chap. I, sect. A).

Chapter VIII

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-eighth session

1. At its resumed 8th meeting, on 14 April 2005, the Commission adopted the draft report on its thirty-eighth session (E/CN.9/2005/L.3), as introduced by the Vice-Chairman, Majdi Ramadan (Lebanon), on behalf of the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur.

2. At the same meeting, the Commission authorized the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur to finalize the report.

Chapter IX
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission held its thirty-eighth session at United Nations Headquarters from 4 to 8 and on 14 April 2005. The Commission held 9 meetings (1st to 8th and resumed 8th).

2. The session was opened by the Chairman of the thirty-seventh session, Mr. Alfredo Chuquihuara (Peru).

3. Opening statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, the Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the representative of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

B. Attendance

4. The session was attended by 41 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for one non-member State also attended. Representatives of the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations also attended. The list of participants will be issued as document E/CN.9/2005/INF/1.

C. Election of officers

5. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 4 April, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman:
Crispin Grey-Johnson (Gambia)

Vice-Chairmen:
Majdi Ramadan (Lebanon)
Alfredo Chuquihuara (Peru)
Olivier Chave (Switzerland)

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur:
Ewa Fratczak (Poland)

D. Report of the Bureau of the Commission on its intersessional meeting

6. At its 1st meeting, on 4 April, the Commission heard a statement by Mr. Chuquihuara, who introduced the report of the Bureau of the Commission on its intersessional meeting, held in Lima from 16 to 19 October 2004 (E/CN.9/2005/2).

7. At the same meeting, the Commission took note of the report.

E. Agenda

8. At its 1st meeting, on 4 April, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda as contained in document E/CN.9/2005/1 and Corr.1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development.
4. Contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration.
5. General debate on national experience in population matters: population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty.
6. Review of the methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development.
7. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.
8. Provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission.
9. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-eighth session.

F. Documentation

9. The list of documents before the Commission at its thirty-eighth session is contained in annex I.

Annex I

List of documents before the Commission at its thirty-eighth session

Document symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
E/CN.9/2005/1 and Corr.1	2	Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission
E/CN.9/2005/2	2	Report of the Bureau of the Commission on Population and Development on its intersessional meeting, held in Lima from 16 to 19 October 2004
E/CN.9/2005/3	3	Report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, focusing on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty
E/CN.9/2005/4	3	Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes, focusing on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty
E/CN.9/2005/5	3	Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
E/CN.9/2005/6	4	Report of the Secretary-General on the contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration
E/CN.9/2005/7	6	Report of the Secretary-General on the working methods of the Commission on Population and Development
E/CN.9/2005/8	7	Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends

Document symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
E/CN.9/2005/9	7	Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2004: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs
E/CN.9/2005/NGO/1	3	Statement submitted by International Women's Health Coalition, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.9/2005/NGO/2	3	Statement submitted by World Population Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.9/2005/NGO/3	3	Joint statement submitted by Association for Women in Development, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, and Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Catholics for a Free Choice, Center for Reproductive Rights, Center for Women's Global Leadership, Family Care International, IPAS, and World Population Foundation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status with the Council
E/CN.9/2005/NGO/4	3	Statement submitted by Population Action International, a non-governmental organization on the Roster
E/CN.9/2005/NGO/5	3	Statement submitted by Family Care International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.9/2005/CRP.1	7	Note by the Secretary-General on the draft programme of work of the Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, for the period 2006-2007
E/CN.9/2005/L.1 and Corr.1	2	Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the session

Document symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
E/CN.9/2005/L.2	8	Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission
E/CN.9/2005/L.3	7	Draft report of the thirty-eighth session of the Commission
E/CN.9/2005/L.4	3	Draft resolution on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty, submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations
E/CN.9/2005/L.5	4	Draft resolution on the contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations
E/CN.9/2005/L.6	3	Draft decision on the special theme for the Commission on Population and Development in the year 2007, submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations
E/CN.9/2005/L.7	6	Draft decision on the methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development, submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations

Annex II

Summaries of the statements made in connection with the adoption of draft resolutions E/CN.9/2005/L.4 and E/CN.9/2005/L.5, under agenda items 3 and 4, respectively, and draft decision E/CN.9/2005/L.7, under agenda item 6

1. The representative of the United States of America made a statement for the record in explanation of position on draft resolution E/CN.9/2005/L.4. He stated that the United States reaffirmed the goals and objectives of the International Conference on Population and Development. He added that the position of the United States towards its implementation was contingent on several understandings, namely, that the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development did not create international legal rights, including any right to abortion, nor did it create any legally binding obligations on States under international law. The further interpretation of the United States was that States did not consider the outcome documents of either the Conference or the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly to contain support for, or endorsement or promotion of, abortion. The representative indicated that the United States understood that there was international consensus that the terms "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights" did not include abortion or imply support for, or endorsement or promotion of, abortion or abortifacients. The United States considered that any affirmation of paragraph 63 of the outcome document of the twenty-first special session of the Assembly did not deny the firm support of the United States for the right of conscientious objection for health-care workers whose personal belief might dictate their refusal to perform, or be involved in, abortion or abortion-related activities. The reaffirmation of these documents, by the United States did not constitute a change in the position of the United States with respect to treaties that it had not ratified. The United States fully supported the principle of voluntary choice regarding maternal and child health and family planning. Consistent with the International Conference on Population and Development, the United States did not recognize abortion as a method of family planning, nor did it support abortion in its reproductive health assistance. The representative stated that the United States did support the treatment of women who had suffered injuries or illness caused by legal or illegal abortion, including the provision of post-abortion care, and did not place such treatment among abortion-related services. In addition, the representative of the United States emphasized the value of comprehensive prevention strategies to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS. This approach employed population-specific interventions that highlighted abstinence for youth and other unmarried persons, including delay of sexual debut for youth; mutual faithfulness and partner reduction for sexually active adults; and correct and consistent use of condoms by those whose behaviour placed them at risk for transmitting or becoming infected with HIV. The United States supported interventions that were informed by, and responsive to, local needs, local epidemiology, and distinctive social and cultural patterns, as well as coordinated with the HIV/AIDS strategies of national Governments. The representative underscored the commitment of the United States to programmes that promoted greater male involvement in voluntary family planning and in disease prevention. It supported programmes to help men and boys develop healthy relationships with women and foster safe and stable families, recognizing that equal relationships between women and men in sexual relations and reproduction required mutual respect, consent and shared responsibility for such behaviour and its consequences. The United States supported the development of

policies and laws that better supported the family — including single-parent, compound, extended and recomposed families — and that made provision for their different needs and particular circumstances. The representative further stated that it was essential for parents and other persons caring for adolescents to provide appropriate direction and guidance on sexual and reproductive matters and other aspects of children's lives.

2. The representative of Nicaragua requested that his statement of position on draft resolution E/CN.9/2005/L.4 should be included in the final report of the thirty-eighth session of the Commission. The representative stressed the importance to his delegation for the resolution to reaffirm the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development. He added that, while his delegation was aware that the resolution referred in general terms to the subject of HIV/AIDS, it was important to mention also that during the negotiations efforts had been made to clarify the fact that the outcome documents of the Conference had been adopted on the understanding that nothing they contained created any right to abortion, as had been made clear at the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo. Nicaragua therefore wished to reaffirm the reservations which it had entered at that time and to state that the Government of Nicaragua, in accordance with its Constitution and laws, and as a signatory to the American Convention on Human Rights, reaffirmed that every person had a right to life, which was a fundamental and inalienable right that came into existence at the moment of conception. Abortion or the interruption of pregnancy can under no circumstances be considered a means of fertility regulation or birth control, as had been made clear in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and all domestic laws governing this matter were within the sovereign power of the State of Nicaragua. The representative added that the Government of Nicaragua accepted the concepts of reproductive rights and reproductive health and considered that abortion was not a component of those rights. It also accepted the outcome documents of the International Conference on Population and Development, while recognizing that they contained no language that could be interpreted as promoting abortion. The representative also declared that the Government of Nicaragua reiterated the reservations it had entered with regard to the terms "sexual and reproductive health", "sexual rights", "sexual and reproductive health services", and other similar terms, and understood once again that those terms did not include abortion. Lastly, the Government recognized the fundamental role and responsibilities of parents in matters related to the sexual and reproductive health of adolescents.

3. The representative of Luxembourg, speaking on behalf of the Member States of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, requested that her explanation of position be included in the report of the Commission on Population and Development on the work of its thirty-eighth session. She first recalled that for the European Union, the complete and unconditional reaffirmation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, adopted in Cairo, was of fundamental importance. The European Union welcomed the adoption of the resolution on the implementation of the Programme of Action in the context of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, since it was convinced that the Millennium Development Goals could not be achieved without progress towards the implementation of the Programme of Action on universal access to reproductive and sexual health services. Care should be taken to ensure that issues relating to sexual and reproductive health were duly taken into account in the outcome of the 2005 high-level meeting, including its objectives and follow-up indicators. In that connection,

the goal of the International Conference on Population and Development of ensuring universal access to reproductive and sexual health services by the year 2015 should serve as a follow-up indicator to measure progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, particularly those related to the improvement of maternal health, reduction of infant mortality, gender equality, efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, and the eradication of poverty. With regard to HIV/AIDS, the European Union emphasized the need to link the fight against HIV/AIDS to reproductive and sexual health and related rights. Such an integrated approach would have an impact on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and should necessarily be based on the achievement of the goals and targets defined in Cairo. By imposing on families and households, economically, socially and in terms of health, a heavy burden that was disproportionately borne by women, AIDS increased poverty. Reproductive and sexual health services were therefore important points of entry for maximizing the results of actions to prevent HIV/AIDS and to combat poverty. With regard to the decision on methods of work, the European Union intended to participate actively in improving the work of the Commission, on the basis of the principles laid down in the decision and the thirty-ninth session of the Commission would provide an opportunity for an in-depth discussion of the reform of methods of work, which, as the events of the previous week had shown, was a matter of great urgency.

4. The representative of Norway reaffirmed her country's full support for and commitment to the entire Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the key actions for its further implementation and requested that her statement be included in the Official Records. She emphasized that it was crucial to recognize that the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development was a necessary condition for the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals. She stated that the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on Population and Development had contributed to bridging the divide between sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention. She commended the Millennium Project for its forceful and excellent work which provided a practical strategy for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. She emphasized Norway's full support for the proposal made by the Millennium Project and the Task Force on Child Health and Maternal Health regarding the addition of universal access to reproductive health services by 2015 as a target, with related monitoring indicators, to Millennium Development Goal 5 in respect of reducing maternal mortality.

5. The representative of El Salvador requested that his statement on draft resolution E/CN.9/2005/L.4 should be included in the official report of the Commission. He reaffirmed the commitment and political will of his country to fully implement the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, as well as the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the Conference. He also reaffirmed the reservations expressed by the delegation of El Salvador at the International Conference on Population and Development, in particular the primacy of national laws in the matter. He reiterated his country's support for sexual and reproductive health on the understanding that this does not include abortion and that abortion methods could not be considered a part of "reproductive rights".

6. The observer of Costa Rica requested that her statement on draft resolution E/CN.9/2005/L.4 should be duly recorded in the official report of the Commission. She reiterated her country's commitment to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the key actions for its

further implementation, as well as to the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, while reaffirming that all its international commitments should be viewed within the framework of Costa Rica's domestic legal order and human rights, and, in particular, the fundamental principle of the primacy and inviolability of the right to life from the moment of conception. Consequently, and based on the reservations and statements made by Costa Rica in the various international conferences, she reiterated that no reference to sexual rights, reproductive rights or health services could be interpreted, under any circumstances whatsoever, to mean an implicit or explicit recognition of a right to abortion. At the same time, she stated that, in recognizing the rights of adolescents to sexual health, the rights of their parents and legal guardians in the matter should also be recognized.

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